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March 2011 | **Jones County Junior College** | **Volume 87, No. 4**

China visit creates opportunities

CASSIDI BUSH
NEWS EDITOR

China has become a force to be reckoned with, and America needs to make some changes before it's left behind. That was the message from Dr. Jesse Smith, Jones County Junior College president, after he attended the International Educational College Conference in China Oct. 13-23.

Along with Dr. Mark Taylor, five other college presidents and two officials from the American Association of Community Colleges, Smith visited five colleges from Beijing to Shanghai in order to learn what works best in educational systems and use those tactics in our schools, develop exchange programs and make connections in the economic zone.

They observed the teaching of extremely advanced technology. Most of the schools were less than 50 years old, and each contained about 10,000 students who were completely focused on their studies.

"There was not a single time that every student was not fully engaged in their lessons," Smith said. "I found myself alarmed by the Chinese dedication and their sheer magnitude in numbers. It was very frightening."

JCJC President Dr. Jesse Smith recieves a gift after a meeting, which is tradition in China. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Determination and focus are big differences between American and Chinese students. Smith explained that this is because the Chinese want to be set financially and socially. Chinese people are very concerned with showing "good face." While the American mentality is that someone has to lose in order for them to win, the Chinese are concerned with finding common ground and compromises so that everyone wins.

According to Smith, America began

Editor's Note
JCJC President Dr. Jesse Smith spoke to four *Radionian* members about his recent trip to China. Additional stories can be found on the Opinions and Features pages.

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Students and faculty attend Capitol Day

CASSIDI BUSH
NEWS EDITOR

For years, Jones County Junior College has participated in Capitol Day, but many people have no idea what this is. This year the event, hosted by the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges, took place Feb. 17.

Twenty-five faculty and staff members, five students and the administration from each of the 14 community and junior colleges in Mississippi traveled to Jackson to gather at the State Capitol and hold a news conference on the second floor Rotunda. The topic of the day was mid-level funding for community and junior colleges. Biology instructor, Dr. Matthew Burnham led JCJC as the president of the Faculty and Staff Association; he has also attended four times as the vice president.

"Community and junior colleges should be paid at a mid level between K-12 and universities," said Burnham. "It is a proven fact that community and junior colleges assist a larger proportion of the community. At the current rate (below K-12 funding), if we keep packing students in classrooms at the current budget, student tuition would have to increase to accommodate more teachers, supplies, etc."

Community and junior colleges have been working for mid-level funding for years. In 2007, lawmakers committed to mid-level funding through Senate Bill 2364. This measure endorsed per-student funding for community colleges that is midway between funding for K-12 students and public university students. Because of the down economy, mid-level funding has not occurred. In fact, when the state made budget cuts last year, community and junior colleges took a hit in funding despite having double digit record enrollment.

The day in Jackson is to remind legislators of their promise to fairly fund community and junior colleges and to share the value of a community/junior college education. Faculty, staff and students visited their district legislators for photos and to thank them for their support. Some of the colleges attending were recognized on the House and Senate floors during session.

Burnham said that this was the first time JCJC took this many students, faculty and staff. Everyone who participated loaded a bus in matching T-shirts and left the campus at 7 a.m. for the day.

During the 9:30 a.m. press

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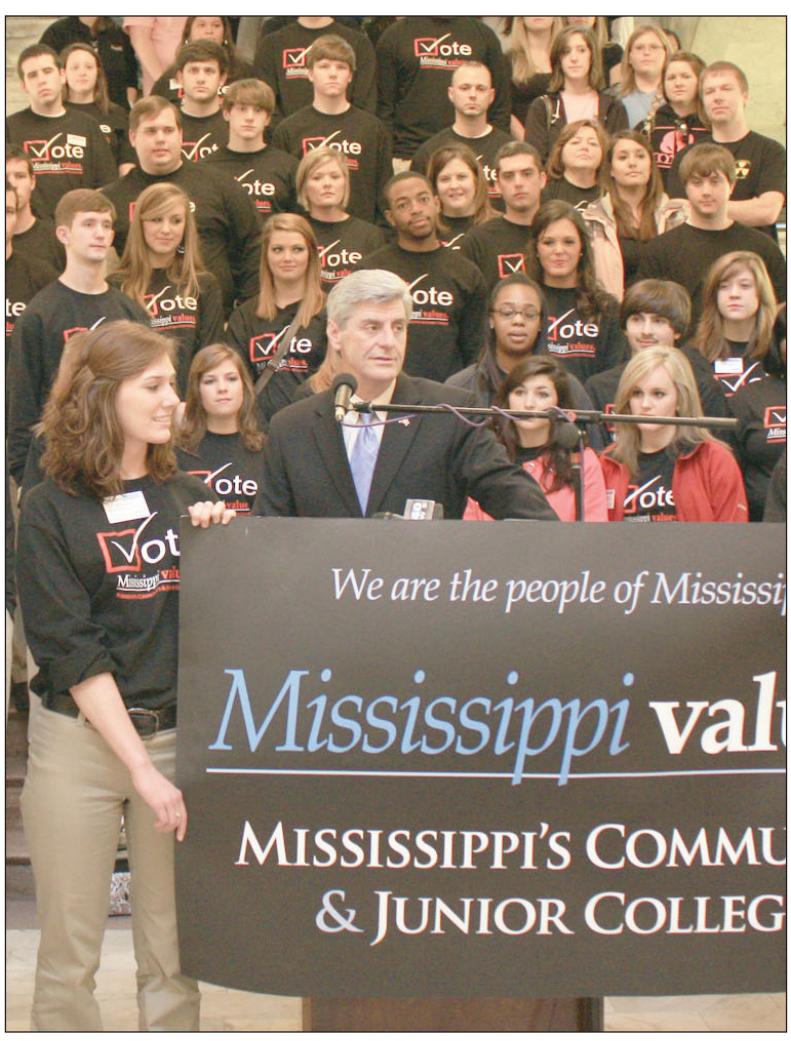


Lt. Gov. Phil Bryant addresses community college representatives and media during theCapitol Day press conference. PHOTO BY SAMANTHA BASS

Veteran speaks to honors students

SETH HOUSTON
STAFF WRITER

War and politics. Besides hand-to-hand combat training, what comes in handy in both of these areas? Perspective, and Staff Sergeant David Bellavia had plenty of perspective when he spoke to JCJC students Jan. 31.

Bellavia was an infantryman who led a platoon during the Second Battle of Fallujah in Iraq. His job was to lead his men through each house on their assigned route through the city and personally eliminate any insurgents who might be hiding, or, more commonly, lying in wait inside the buildings. On top of that, they also had to watch out for all kinds of booby traps, like entire houses stuffed with explosives and set to blow.

"Iraq is like a big melting pot," said Bellavia. "You got Sunnis in Al Qaeda that hate us, and Shiias from twelver

Bellavia speaks to students. PHOTO BY THOMAS RONEY

Iran that hate us, and then in Iraq you have Sunnis and Shiias in a nice little milkshake with a little hate whipped cream and an anti-Zionist cherry on top, because they hate Israel too."

Despite the fierce opposition and the grim circumstances, Bellavia is a firm believer that laughter can indeed be like a medicine.

"God doesn't want us to blow each other's heads off," said Bellavia. "And to do these despicable things to each other, you have to have some sort of levity to bring it down and feel like you're human again," said Bellavia.

Although it might not seem so, he has plenty to laugh about. From mistakenly assigning his Sergeant Major's living room as a prisoner outhouse, to the strange sounds and smells of the battlefield, Bellavia and his men can usually find something to keep their minds off the realities of war.

Although Bellavia detests the inhumanity of war, he is a firm believer in its necessity for the protection of a free society. To explain, he told the

see **VETERAN** *Page 2*

Jones to host blood drive Feb. 28-March 2

ERIN LOWREY
OPINIONS EDITOR

JCJC will hold a blood drive, Feb 28-March 2, and United Blood Service is crossing their fingers that the college continues to hold first place in donations. The UBS is in critical need of blood due to blood drive cancellations from weather and sickness.

"Since January 2, I have seen more blood drives cancelled than I have seen in my 20 years with the organization," said Senior Representative Beverly Clark.

JCJC may fill their need. JCJC students still take first place in donating the most blood for drives. "The students and teachers are very community minded," said Clark. "Jones is our biggest donor. These students have blessed us."

The college's last Blood Drive was held Dec. 1. The December drive's goal was 135 units, which the college surpassed. The upcoming drive will have a similar goal.

Jones students not only rank high in blood donation, but they also have

see **BLOOD** *Page 2*

Nursing students pass out snacks during a drive. PHOTO BY ERIN LOWREY

Committee plans for Centennial celebration

MICHELLE HAHN
STAFF WRITER

Jones County Junior College celebrates 100 years of history this year. The celebration will start in the fall of 2011 and continue through spring of 2012.

Centennial events are scheduled to coincide with events that happen in particular months, such as Veterans Day and Black History month. The list of events start with the opening of Anderson Hall Aug. 15 followed with the opening of Jones Hall in September.

"Next year we are planning a major program with the history of the college," said Dr. Samuel Jones, JCJC dean of student affairs.

Rebecca Patrick, JCJC Humanities faculty and Centennial Committee member, hopes to plan reunions of various sports teams and organizations throughout the year. A variety of guest speakers are also scheduled to join the celebration.

"This doesn't happen every day, for an institution to turn 100," Patrick said. "And to think back to all the things that have happened, good and bad, and to be a part of a year-long series of events that celebrates Jones Junior College is something special for faculty, staff and students."

Like some other junior colleges in Mississippi JCJC started as an agricultural high school in 1911. JCJC became a junior college in September 1927. Three buildings that are no longer standing originally made up the campus. Some original structures still exist.

"The only original parts of campus are the arbors located on either side of the library where the wisteria vine grows over," Patrick said. "All the alumni, me included, remember the arbors because they're so pretty in the spring."

More events are still in the planning stages, but students will be notified of the activities by the beginning of the fall semester.

Jones celebrates Black History Month

Graham speaks to students at the Black History Month program. Photo by Michelle Hahn

Michelle Hahn
STAFF WRITER

Relaying a message of hope, faith and inspiration is what the Multi-Cultural Student Organization had in mind at the Black History program Feb. 8 in the M.P. Bush Fine Arts auditorium at Jones County Junior College.

The program began with a PowerPoint presentation that displayed famous African Americans in history. Steve Boyd, JCJC assistant football coach, started the program with a prayer followed by the American Anthem performed by JCVoices, directed by Dr. Susan Smith. Dr. Tammy Townsend, MCSO sponsor, delivered the welcome note. Laurel High School Gospel Choir sang "I'll Stand" and "Standing in the Need of Prayer" before the guest speaker, Jeremy Graham, Louisiana native and student at Mississippi College, was introduced.

"I just knew, because he (Graham) had been highly recommended, that he would bring a really good message," Dahmer said.

Graham began his speech by applauding the audience and giving honor to Dr. Samuel Jones, dean of Student Affairs. Graham is from New Orleans, Louisiana. He has a younger brother, Jared, that is serving a life sentence in Angola, Louisiana's state penitentiary. Graham explained that he was heading down the same path until he was forced to move to Jackson, Mississippi where he met Pastor Lionel Traylor, "The man who saved my life." Graham has since graduated from Hinds County Community College and attends Mississippi College. Presently, Graham is a licensed minister and Youth President at the Epicenter Church Incorporated in Pearl, MS. Graham urges youth to succeed no matter their circumstances, and he hopes to inspire people with his story.

"There is hope for us. All those who paved the way gave us hope," Graham said. "All it took was one individual, one individual. A lot of times we don't believe one person can change your life, but one person can change your life."

Jones ended the program with a second applause for Graham and a few closing remarks.

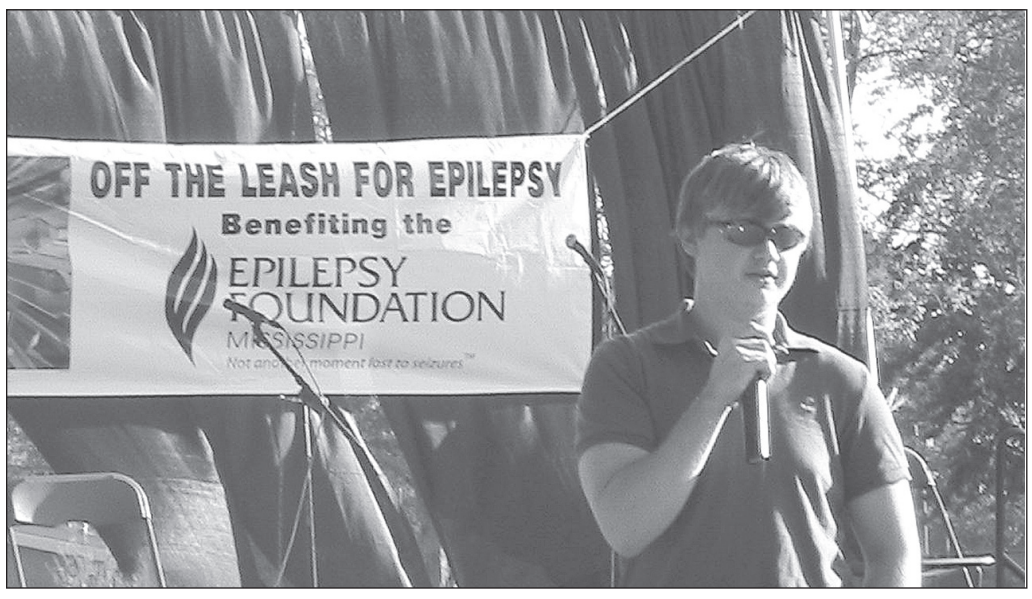
"As long as we are living, we should have hope," Jones said. "We may be speaking on Black history, but it's not just Black history, it's American history."

JCJC hosts FBLA competition

Hundreds of high school students were on the JCJC campus Feb. 3 to compete in the FBLA Southern District Leadership Conference. Pictured are FBLA students practicing for the mock interview competition. Photo by Miranda Farmer

Hankins plans epilepsy awareness walk

Cassidi Bush
NEWS EDITOR



JCJC student Jarrod Hankins speaks at last year's awareness walk. Photo Submitted

Many people don't know much about epilepsy or care to learn about it unless it affects someone they know.

Most think it is something that will not happen to them, but according to the Epilepsy Foundation, about 3 million Americans are affected with the chronic disease. Jones County Junior College sophomore Jarrod Hankins is one of these.

Epilepsy is diagnosed when a patient has experienced three or more unprovoked seizures. There is no cure to the disease, but there are treatments. Hankins' seizures come from both sides of his brain. Doctors tell him he is lucky that his can be controlled by medicine, since he, like many others, is not a candidate for surgery.

Being diagnosed with the disease at age 14 was hard for Jarrod. In order to raise awareness and provide support for others going through the same thing, Jarrod and his mother began a support group almost two years ago. Hankins has since spoken at various events about his experience including "Off the Leash for Epilepsy" in Brandon last year.

"The reason I wanted to start this was because I knew how scared I was and how much I had wished I knew someone going through the same thing," Hankins said. "I don't see it as a group as much as I consider us a family."

Their meetings are usually during the third week of each month at South Central Regional Medical Center, and there are usually about 20 supporters in attendance. Hankins is grateful for the opportunity to be a leader of such an organization.

"I don't see epilepsy as a burden anymore. I see it as a blessing because I can help people," said Hankins.

The mayors of Laurel, Ellisville, and Hattiesburg are signing proclamations to declare March 25 Purple Day, founded originally by 9-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. The group is currently organizing a walk to spread awareness March 26 at Mason Park in Laurel. Last year, a similar event yielded great success.

"We walked from Highland Baptist Church to Mason Park and around the track a few times," Hankins said. "We want people to know how to watch for signs of seizures in loved ones and to know that they are not alone once they are diagnosed."

For more information about the walk or to receive handouts and literature, e-mail support4ep@gmail.com.

Students learn through simulation

Joshua Agee rode in this simulator as part of an event hosted by the Student Success Center to raise awareness about the dangers of texting and driving. Photo by Cassidi Bush

Capitol

from page 1

conference held at the Capitol, speakers included representatives of the State Board for Community and Junior College and Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges, Sen. Perry Lee, District 5 Rep. Kelvin Buck, and JCJC instructor Bob Smith, who serves as vice president to the Mississippi Faculty Assocation for Community and Junior Colleges.

Those representing JCJC included faculty/staff Dr. Matthew Burnham, Lucy Flowers, Sandy Cochran, Jeremiah Estes, Julie Atwood, Kelly Atwood, Megan Stringer, Mary Boleware, Caren Griffiin, Judy Prine, Barry Bradshaw, Donna Dykes and Donna Bass, and JCJC students Samantha Bass, Brianna Mills, Kelsie Hennis and Sarah Cashion.

Veteran

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audience about a YouTube video in which an American is beheaded by terrorists.

"That guy got his head cut off not because of what he believed in, not because he was a racist, or because he was someone who beat his wife or molested kids. He got his head cut off because he was an American. That was his crime," said Bellavia.

After the main presentation, Bellavia had a Q&A with the Honors Institute, where he was asked about his views on how politics affect war.

"This mentality that if we just walk away and ignore a threat then it will go away doesn't work," said Bellavia. "Whatever you believe, God bless you, but the irony of it to me is that the Hollywood people who say 'War is not the answer' are the reason why Islamists want to kill us. They watch our movies and think we're wicked and disgusting people."

Another issue that pushes Bellavia's buttons is the practice of embedded journalism, where the government personally assigns journalists to military platoons to protect them. Bellavia said he doesn't mind journalists getting a story, as long as they don't put soldiers' lives at risk.

He gave one example of an embedded journalist who was involved in a vehicle rollover accident which ended up with the vehicle in a lake. The man almost drowned, but a soldier saved him and drowned in the process.

"The reporter writes the story. Never once mentions the vehicle rollover or the fact that he fell in the water and the soldier died," said Bellavia. "Instead, he writes a story about two soldiers taking bamboo sticks and beating to death two dogs because they were barking at night."

However, in spite of all the obstacles that society throws in the way of a warrior, Bellavia believes that the results are worth it.

"When we come home and we see a society that not only appreciates it, but is going out there and doing the things that we are defending them for," he concluded, "it's the greatest feeling in the world."

Bellavia was a guest of the Charles Pickering Honors Institute.

Blood

from page 1

incredible reasoning behind their donations.

"My brother and mom can't give blood, so I give for them," said JCJC student Allison Harrington. "I'm glad I get to give blood and feel accomplished."

JCJC student Sasha Carpenter reiterates Harrington's statement, "There is nothing better than helping someone in need."

Helping others was a strong motivation, one that the senior donor representative is thankful for. "If it had not been for blood I would not have my 86-year-old father today. Giving blood is near and dear to my heart," said Clark.

Each donor will receive a t-shirt after they give blood. This year, students have the option of immediately taking with them a Mardi Gras-themed shirt, or they have the option of choosing several shirts in various sizes that can be ordered online and shipped to their home address. Clark said the upcoming drive will have several more prizes available through a raffle. Prizes will include tickets to the Grand Theatre in Hattiesburg, three $50 Visa cards, and a $50 gas card.

Clark wants to remind everyone that whenever they give blood, they earn points that can be redeemed online for free items such as DVDs, movie tickets, clothing and more. Donors lose those points if they don't use them within two years. Anyone who has given blood and not redeemed their points should do so soon.

The upcoming drive will be held inside the gymnasium game room. Clark urges every donor to eat a good breakfast and drink lots of fluids. Snacks and juice will be provided at the drive before donations are taken. JCJC has a wonderful reputation for these drives; let's keep up the good work Bobcats!

Blood Drive Door Prizes

- ▲ Grand Theatre tickets
- ▲ Cafeteria meal tickets
- ▲ $50 Visa cards

THE RADIONIAN

Jones County Junior College
Ellisville MS 39437

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Chinese vs. American education

Lack of motivation reveals America needs to make changes

Erin Lowrey
OPINIONS EDITOR

According to Merriam Webster's Dictionary, the definition of "motivation" is the act of force, stimulus or influence. Motivation can be inspired through role models, innovating experiences, spiritual reasoning and much more. People tend to limit motivation to getting out of bed in the morning to fulfill tedious day-by-dayresponsibilities,such as education. The only problem is there aren't any alarm clocks out there to inspire a person to focus on their academics. The fact of the matter is Americans have lost their "inner alarm" systems. We no longer yearn to jump out of bed for learning. Sadly, we hit the snooze button far too many times.

In China, education is not a luxury, it is a lifestyle. There is a "one child law" in China. This law limits every Chinese family to one offspring. Picture this: one child is cared for by six adults. These include two grandmothers, two grandfathers, a mother and a father. All six adults focus on rearing the child and paying for their education. Why is this? Education provides two things in their country, a strong "face" for the family and economic stability for life. The "face" of the family basically means the title or "honor" that child can bring to their family. If the child's honor or "face" is quite remarkable, their ranges of possibilities are in a sense endless.

One would think that the family pressure would be enough motivation to succeed; however, this just begins the motivation process. The Chinese take their education very seriously. If one were to take a stroll on a Chinese high school/college campus there would be no one talking on the sidewalks. In fact, there would not be a sound. Chinese students are always in class. They do not skip classes because they are tired, nor do they rely on their eight un-excused absence rules. Their dedication to school is overwhelming. Considering their attendance is flawless, their grades are superior to the average American students' grades. American students strive to just pass a certain subject; as for Chinese students, a "C" would be absolutely unacceptable.

American students in our generation are known as the "Millennial Age." We are the smartest generation ever in our nation's history. The biggest generational gap is between us and our parents. Millennial parents do not connect as well with their children because of the technological gap. An average American student can pick up a blackberry and master every function in a half hour. Our parents pick up a blackberry and require instructions for every program in great detail. Despite our intelligence, we hide our innovation behind our lack of determination. We are becoming the laziest generation in history. We put petty activities before our responsibilities. How does this make sense? We are the successors to our nation and we can't even leave the couch for the remote. How are we ever going to compete with China if we continue our sloth-like lifestyles?

Many American students would blame "pressure" as the main reason why we aren't as serious about education as the Chinese. If you ask me, I call this a bluff. Earthly pressures are no excuse to ignore the building blocks of our future foundations. Yes, if we compare our academic requirements to our parent's generation then one would find many strenuous differences. Is this a reason to put education on the back burner? If one would continue to compare us to our parent's generation, they would find out that they did anything and everything to get a college degree. Their inspiration came from wanting something more than what they had. Now, what can we say for our generation?

American students need to re-kindle their fire for learning. This includes every aspect of learning. Parents need to stress the importance of education every day. Teachers need to link with their students on a level that is interesting and motivational. Students need to realize that no one can force them to do something that they don't want to do. American students need to re-evaluate the importance of education and realize it is a pre-requisite to their futures. If the Chinese can make education their main focus then so should America. Education should no longer be an option; it needs to be a priority. Set those alarm clocks because our nation needs a wake-up call.

Chinese families value educating children more than Americans do

Miranda Farmer
STAFF WRITER

Editor's Note: In Fall 2010, JCJC had an enrollment of 5716 students. Of that number, 2058 were enrolled in at least one remedial course.

Statistics show the number of well-educated children in China exceed the number of total children in America, putting China ahead of the US in number of successful graduates. Elementary education in America has become lazy, especially with the No Child Left Behind policy in effect. Many teachers promote students to the next grade regardless of the students' abilities. Thus, many students enter high school without the ability to read.

Teachers, however, are not all to blame for the decline of the perceived importance of literacy and mathematical ability. The breakdown of the family unit in modern society is also a cause. Single parent families usually have a smaller income than two-parent families, as well as less time to devote to a child's mental and emotional needs. Single parent families are becoming more common in the United States, so more children have less support than in the past. In many cases, the teacher is the only adult truly supporting a child's education. The same teacher also devotes his or her attention to several other children and cannot give the child the same amount of attention as parents.

In contrast, Chinese parents, in most areas, are allowed to have only one child. The parents of this child dedicate themselves to have a harmonious, productive family life. Couples marry later in life and have children later than many American couples. They also ensure that their child is as healthy and well-educated as possible. The families of China have a head – the husband – who oversees the workings of the household. All family members divide housework evenly. The Chinese have the mentality of caring for the young and respecting elders, a custom which seems lost in American culture. Grown children who have married and created families remain close to their parents. Those parents help take care of their grandchildren.

The Chinese also have different values from Americans. Americans seem to focus more on individuality, what or who we know, and making others lose so we may win. The Chinese, however, focus on a common good. The Chinese are more motivated in school because they want to have respect among their peers. Students in China show up to class so they can have a better life for themselves and their families. Meanwhile, Americans skip class to hang out at the mall, expecting an education to be given to them as it was all their lives.

In order to better America's education system, students have to devote time and energy to their studies, and parents should support them in their efforts. The time in which a young child is educated is also the time in which a child learns to understand the importance of an education. No law can make people want to learn. The change in the education system needs to be a cultural change. Parents should nurture their child's ability and desire to learn by helping with homework, reading for fun, or playing math quiz games on road trips. The adults in a child's life also need to pay attention to the quality of a child's education in school. If the quality of education is low, investment in a private school or home school is not too high a price to pay for a child's education. Some may say that ignorance is bliss, but a society of blissful ignorance could destroy the American way.

Misconception over the insanity plea proves to be false

Tiffany Odom
STAFF WRITER

Many people believe a short stay in a mental hospital is not enough punishment for someone who brutally took the life of another. On the other hand, should a person unaware of the consequences of his or her crimes be possibly sentenced to death? The controversy of the insanity plea has been an ongoing argument for nearly two centuries.

Some critics of the insanity plea believe it to be a loophole through the United State's court systems. To use this defense, the defendant had to have definitely committed the crime in question. It is only used when other defense methods will surely fail. A critical argument is without the controversial insanity plea, many obviously guilty criminals would have served time for their illegal acts. The insanity plea completely dismisses the "eye or an eye" theory that most people support. Another claimed problem with the insanity plea is that persons found not guilty by reason of insanity will be released from the hospital after being "cured" and commit another crime. In the case of Jim Hinson, he avoided punishment for murdering his daughter. Hinson served only a few years at a mental institution in Alabama, and then was released. He moved to Florida where he was later arrested for fondling two under-aged girls. Where will the line be drawn? How many crimes does one have to commit before being permanently locked up?

A common misconception with insanity pleas is the idea that they are overused. This is not at all true. For the possibility of the success of pleading insanity, various qualifications must be met. A trained psychologist must deem the defendant legally insane. The defendant must also admit to insanity, and the lawyer must convince the court that the defendant is not guilty by mental instability. While they hear and see testimonies of the crime, the lawyer must prove that the defendant was insane at the time of commission. These reasons pose insanity to be a hard case to prove and often is inadmissible in court. Even clearly mentally ill people like Ted Bundy (who killed young girls on both coasts), John Wayne Gacy (who killed young boys and buried their bodies in his walls), and Jeffrey Dahmer (who killed and ate parts of his victims) could not get off with

see **PLEA** *Page 8*

Biology determines gender differences

Simbre Touchston
STAFF WRITER

Many overlook Biological Differences between Men and Women

Try to answer the question, "what is the difference between men and women?" This seems like an easy enough inquiry. All boys wear blue and all girls wear pink. That sums it up, no? Okay, males are anatomically built one way and females another. Well, that seems accurate but what about those born with genital abnormalities? They are on a blurred line. Maybe specifically differentiating between a male and female is not quite so easy. Yet there are differences, prejudices and blatant inequalities across the gender line. Why? There are about as many ways to answer this question as there are to ask it. So I am going to focus on one particular theory of mine.

Being of the female persuasion tends to warrant a negative connotation when confronting the matter of hormones. Stereotypically speaking, those of us who identify as women are viewed as being far more emotionally unbalanced than men. This generalization leads to less reliability on a woman's decision-making skills and more on that of her male counterpart. If a woman challenges this opinion, she is likely to be disregarded with the response "well clearly this is someone's time of the month."

There are significant differences between men and women, much of which gender-based stereotypes omit. Women have four times the number of brain cells connecting the left and right sides of the brain than men. It is no coincidence that a woman can juggle multiple day to day tasks at once while men tend to take things one step at a time.

This particular variance offers advantages to both the male and female spectrum. Women are more likely to consider all that is involved in a decision simultaneously, whereas a man will take a problem apart by rationalizing each individual possibility. When confronted with the same issue, women may strategize quicker and more objectively but are more likely to become overwhelmed more quickly than men. Neither approach is superior, just different.

Imagine this, Bob and Mary work together at a law firm. They endure the same job, same salary, and same daily exposure to stress. An important client of the firm decides to withdraw her case, leaving Bob and Mary in a bind. Mary immediately begins to analyze the increased amount of problems this will create, while Bob is making the next move to recover. They are both working toward a resolution, but Mary seems to exhibit more stress in the workplace. After work, they both go home to their suburbia-based nuclear families. Bob seems overworked by showing signs of anxiety and depression, yet he dismisses any accusations that he is behaving this way. After getting the kids fed and in the bed, Mary describes the work day to her husband, saying why she has been under more stress. After her session of therapeutic venting, Mary gets a good night's sleep. Bob goes to bed restless and wakes up frequently throughout the night.

From an occupational perspective it would seem that Bob is better able to handle unexpected difficulties than Mary, but the big picture tells otherwise. It boils down to a hormone called oxytocin, a hormone that acts to relax the brain, in conjunction with the fight or flight reaction. Decision making for men is to fight, reduce stress by solving a problem, or flight, ignore said dilemma. This can either result in a quick, unclouded response or the strain one encounters when issues are not addressed.

For women, solving problems does not offer the same stress-reducing benefit as men. However, when confronted with stress, women produce larger amounts of oxytocin. Women are genetically predisposed to respond more emotionally to obstacles, however, this is counter reacted with oxytocin. Also, women are able to express themselves which is a stress reliever linked to longer life span. Men are more likely to address predicaments with less clouded judgment but are also at an increased risk of stress by disregarding that which they cannot fix.

Although men and women walk separate hormonal roads, neither gender is walking faster than the other. They just walk with a different stride. So the next time a woman is dismissed on the grounds of "she is female, therefore she must be a hormonal mess," remember, although we are not created the same, we are created equal.

Banned smokers need better locale

John Catlin Duvall
GUEST COLUMNIST

The campus-wide smoking ban enacted by the college administration is giving every student the right to clean air. No longer do students have to bear the nauseating stench of cigarette smoke while going to and from their business on campus. Cigarette butts will no longer line the sidewalks and bushes. We as students can feel proud of our beautiful campus. This policy has the best interest of the Jones County Junior College campus in mind.

Wait! I almost forgot a very important aspect of banning smoking on campus. No one is taking into consideration the hundreds of students on campus who do smoke. The policy outlines that smoking is limited to curbed parking lots. That raises two major problems.

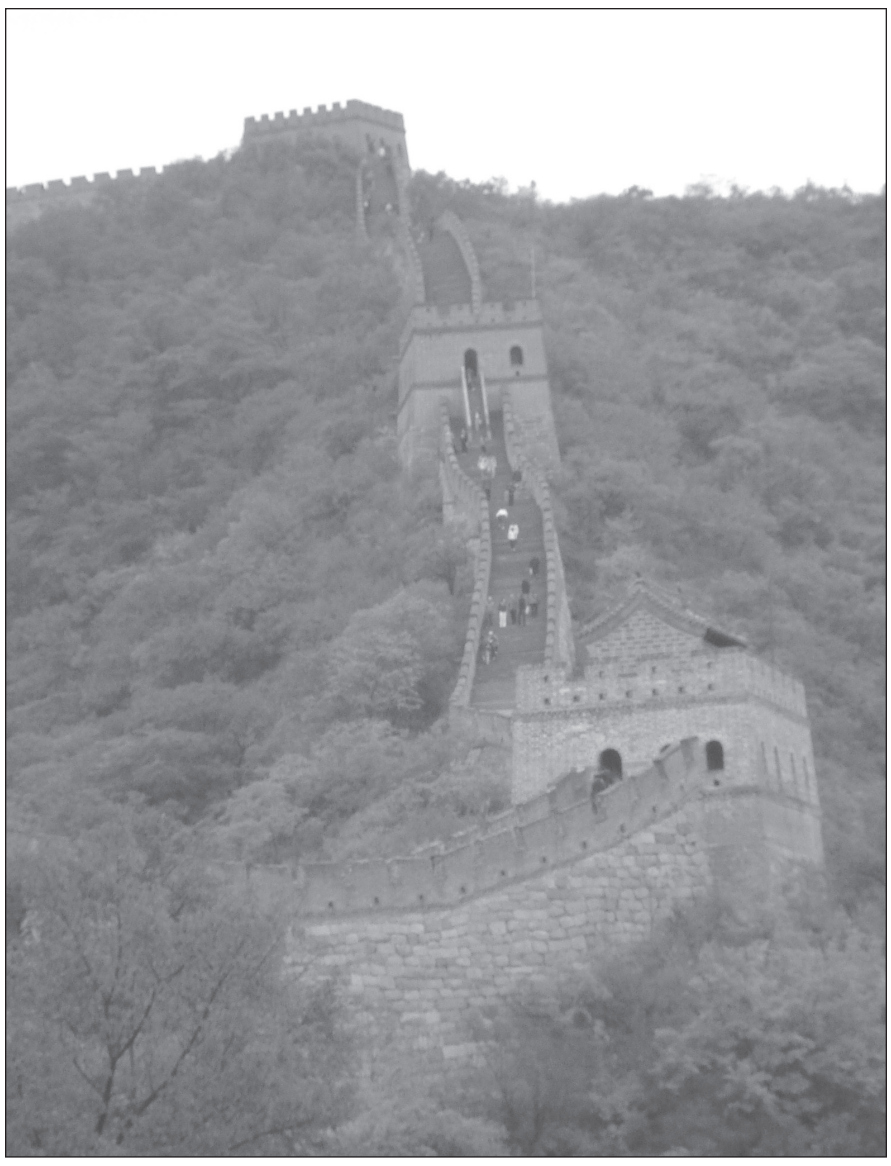
Limiting smoking to curbed parking lots undermines the safety of students. Throughout the day, cars are darting in and out of these areas. Having students just standing around is dangerous for them and the drivers who have to try to avoid them. The other problem is where to go when the weather is bad. It is complete nonsense to make students have to put up with this. No one wants to stand in the rain for any reason, so giving students no choice in the matter is completely unacceptable. Smoking is not a crime, so smokers should not have to be punished because the administration disagrees with them. Clearly something has to be done.

The ban on smoking is a good thing. I am not disputing that. No one should have to put up with smoke if they do not want to; however, throwing students out into the cold who do smoke is just as bad. A simple compromise to this problem is to erect smoking pavilions.

see **SMOKING** *Page 8*

China offers adventure

Brittany Burge
FEATURES EDITOR



The Great Wall of China was one of many sites Smith visited. Photo Submitted.

Dr. Jesse Smith, president of JCJC, recently made a journey to China. His goal in going was to set up a faculty and student exchange program. China has always been a closed society that the world knows very little about, and to think JCJC students would get an opportunity to unveil the mystery surrounding China is amazing.

China is divided into 23 providences and has the highest population in the world. Smith noticed there were crowds wherever he would go. The air is also heavily polluted in the cities; therefore it is always hazy. This would be a change for most JCJC students accustomed to wide-open spaces and clean country air. Our atmosphere would be an adjustment for the Chinese faculty and students as well.

JCJC students that participate in the exchange program would experience a culture shock. Everything about China is different from their food to their values. Students who make this journey should be prepared to eat a lot of rice, noodles, fish, vegetables, and exotic meats. The Chinese also have different values from most Americans and greatly value etiquette. JCJC students would be wise to brush up on Chinese etiquette before leaving. Also, in the Chinese culture the family is dedicated to helping their child be successful. The Chinese see education as an opportunity, stated Smith. Smith also noticed the Chinese were extremely hard workers and would work from sun up to sun down. This is not the case in most households today in America.

Smith greatly encourages students and professors to study and teach abroad because he strongly believes it changes a person's life. He knows from first-hand experience that traveling abroad will change a person's out look on their world. Smith has visited places in Europe and in the Scandinavian countries, but he states that his trip to China was the most significant. He particularly enjoyed the Chinese cities of Xi'an, Beijing, and Shanghai. These three cities embody all of China from ancient ruins to the most high tech cities. Some of Smith's favorite sites were viewing the Terracotta Soldiers and the futuristic buildings.

"I was overwhelmed by the high-tech modern cities. It was amazing to see such development," he said.

Students who participate in this program would have a chance to experience these cities first hand. Students might have the opportunity to see the Great Wall of China, or venture into The Forbidden City, or visit Hangzhou, better known as "Paradise on Earth." China offers so many different atmospheres and places that every day there would be an adventure. Whether you prefer the quietness of the countryside or the hustle and bustle of the city, China has it all.

Overwhelming, enlightening, and inspiring were Smith's three words that summed up his productive trip. Students at JCJC, watch out for the opportunity to study in China. What an adventure that would be.

Fox's Pizza popular with Jones students

Amanda DecCosta
STAFF WRITER

"Music is ev Fox's Pizza popular with Jones students

Being the third pizza joint located in Ellisville might make a student overlook Fox's Pizza Den, but this restaurant is too sly to allow anyone to sniff on by without taking a bite. Literally steps away from Jones County Junior College at 603 S.Front Street, Fox's Pizza Den awaits hungry customers with a plethora of freshly baked Italian delights. You won't have to crawl down any holes to enter this den.

JCJC freshman Katie Folks found herself victim of Fox's allure through their amazing lunch deals. Every Monday through Friday from 3-5 p.m. Fox's Pizza Den hosts happy hour: every pizza on the menu is half priced!

"Fox's Pizza has specials that are college student friendly," said Folks.

"The discounts you get with your Jones One Card are kind of cool, too," included Chris Varner JCJC sophomore.

College students receive ten percent off just by swiping their Jones One Card. Even if you are on the move to disprove the freshman fifteen, Fox's offers delectable alternatives.

"Fox's Pizza offers delicious salads and a wide variety of sandwiches. One just wouldn't normally see those items on the average pizza parlor menu," said JCJC sophomore Kyle Arnold.

With five luscious salad options—Taco Salad, Chef Salad, Tossed Salad, Pasta Salad, and Grilled Chicken Salad—for around four dollars, why not enjoy a Fox's meal? Keep your wallet fat and gain nothing but satisfaction!

Nine-year-oldDawson Hoover loves to wear his 'give me a wedgie' t-shirt from Fox's Pizza Den. He will gladly tell anyone that he wants a wedgie. One visit to Fox's Pizza Den, and you will be begging for a wedgie as well. These uniquely named sandwiches are served on a pizza crust instead of a bun.

"I love that the sandwiches are called wedgies," said Brittany Richards, South Jones High School senior, "So original!"

Add Fox's Pizza Den on Facebook and discover exclusive deals posted every night—such as 6-inch wedgie, chips, and a drink for only $5.49!

"Fox's is right by JCJC, so college students have a quick place to eat a good lunch and return to class," said Callie Crosby, JCJC freshman.

This family-friendly atmosphere provides even more appeal from the fast pace of the workers. The crew at Fox's Pizza act as foxes themselves--quick and precise. In just a few minutes, you'll enjoy exactly what you ordered, piping hot and delicious!

"Fox's Pizza Den has the best pizza, hands down!" said Chance Hoover, a local resident of Ellisville. "Papa who? Pizza huh? Domino-no! It's all about Fox's Pizza!"

Elizabeth Townsend is one of many JCJC students who enjoys Fox's pizza parlor. Photo by Cassidi Bush.

Diane Spruill offers flu season tips

Trevor Gray
STAFF WRITER

In the past few months, the flu has prompted many students at JCJC to stay in bed for up to a week and to "take it easy." Diane Spruill, the nurse practitioner at JCJC, said the college is prepared for the flu season.

"JCJC started preparing for the flu season this October," Spruill said. "PTK (Phi Theta Kappa) wanted to do a project on the campus regarding the flu. Last semester, we did several things on campus: passing out hand sanitizer, passing out pamphlets about how to prepare for the flu, and we gave flu shots. We gave almost 300 flu shots in a week to the students to help them prepare.

"The flu shot is the number one way to prevent getting the flu," Spruill said. "That's the first step. The other steps are of course avoiding direct contact, covering your mouth when you cough, not sharing pencils, coughing into your sleeve, not in your hands, and hand washing, hand washing, hand washing. I would advise that you carry hand sanitizer, especially if you use computers around campus. Many forget to isolate themselves. Quarantine yourself if you have the flu. Don't have a lot of people over, you will just make it spread."

She also mentioned that ample rest is essential to avoiding the flu.

Spruill said that although the flu season has reached its peak according to the state health department, she has yet to give a vaccination this semester, but Spruill mentioned that early vaccination, before the season starts, is preferable to a vaccination in October or November which is when flu season usually begins.

"The only thing about the flu vaccination is that it takes about two weeks to actually become effective. "You could get it today, but you could get the flu within the next two weeks," she said.

Spruill said that the school hospital has received many more patients since the middle of the flu season in November and December. The symptoms that she saw were wide ranging. "We have had a lot of colds and low grade fevers, a lot of vomiting, and some relatively high fevers," she added.

Spruill also works at South Central Regional Medical Center and Ellisville Medical Park and said that she saw many flu cases. "The week after JC got out for Christmas holidays, within two days, we saw approximately 30 positive cases of the flu," Spruill said. "I was very thankful that JC was out for Christmas break because the flu season had really hit, and the students didn't have to miss much school."

She said that the flu has behaved very differently this season. "There have been some atypical cases for the flu," Spruill said. "I have seen kids with the typical nausea and vomiting who test negative for the flu. Even some of my coworkers have said it has not been the normal high fever, heavy coughing and body aches; however, I have seen patients who display only a mild cough, no fever and little body ache and then test positive for the flu."

Spruill has been at JCJC for a year, and in that time she has seen almost 1,900 students. The Home Health Clinic is located on the JCJC campus behind the Neil Cafeteria and is open on weekdays. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, it is open from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the Home Health Clinic is open from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Nurse Diane Spruill treats a JCJC student. Photo by Trevor Gray

SaNyta's spices up Ellisville

Kalli Dickerson
STAFF WRITER

Looking to spice things up on that special day? Or maybe just make a sweet gesture? SaNyta's has you covered. SaNyta's Florist, Gifts, Tanning, and Tuxedo Rental has everything you need to have that special day.

SaNyta's is a full service florist and can handle all your floral needs. They deliver to funeral homes, hospitals and other businesses. They also offer wedding rental and tuxedo rental for all those formal occasions.

A couple of SaNyta's prices include candy bouquet (starting at $15), balloons ($3), latex ($1), and chocolate covered strawberry trays ($25 and up).

SaNyta's has bronzing tanning beds with brand new bulbs, and tanning lotions are available. For the month of February, tanning is discounted to $24 unlimited by bringing in this Radionian article.

"My sister, Nyta, and I joked about going into business, and then I started having dreams about it. The next thing I knew the Lord was opening doors, and in April 2005, SaNyta's LLC was established" said Sandra Portillo, owner of SaNyta's. The name SaNyta's comes from the combination of Sandra and her sister Nyta's names.

Portillo attended South Jones High School then continued on to Jones County Junior College. "I have lived in Ellisville for over 35 years. I love Ellisville and have no intentions of ever leaving," she said. "Over the years we have had a lot of the JCJC students and faculty tan and purchase items with us and it is greatly appreciated."

SaNyta's is located in downtown Ellisville just down the street from Western Auto at 103 West Ivy Street, Ellisville. You can contact Portillo at SaNyta's at 601-477-3232.

Love on campus: many couples meet at JCJC; married couples work at the college

Kalli Dickerson
STAFF WRITER

Jones campus is perfect place to find, work with Lasting Love

College is the perfect place to further your education, but it can also be where you find your one true love.

Jones has some of its own love birds right here on campus.

Carson Atwood, JCJC history instructor, and Julie Atwood, JCJC librarian, are graduates of the University of Southern Mississippi, which also happens to be where they met. Carson was doing some research and spent a lot of time in the reference section of the library.

He explains, "Julie was working at the reference desk, and I was constantly at the desk needing reference materials, and we pretty much fell in love. I mean really, what is possibly more romantic than the reference section of the library?"

The Atwoods enjoy their jobs very much. Carson says, "I have always wanted to be a history teacher, but after coming to Jones as a student I realized that this is where I wanted to work and teach." Julie started off in accounting, but quick decided that she wanted a job that assisted people academically rather than financially.

The Atwoods are parents to three-year-old Kathryn, who is attending the Jones preschool program. Julie says, "It is comforting to know that Carson is close by and that we are both close to our daughter."

Both Cason and Julie agree that working together is great. Carson mentions, "It's nice to be sitting in my office and have Julie stop by just to say hello on her way to another building. It pretty much brightens my day."

Another couple that works together on campus is Lisa and

see LOVE *page 7*

The Patricks today after meeting at JCJC in '77. Photo Submitted.

Glitter Boys bring back the basics

STEPHEN WILSON
STAFF WRITER

Big hairstyles and vivid theatrics come to mind when the members of Glitter Boys first hit the stage. Fist pumping energy and enthusiasm take hold during their opening feature. The Glitter Boys have a stage presence that hasn't been seen since the glory days of rock 'n roll.

Band members include D' Roc screaming lead vocals, Jodyro destroying the drums, Jon Jon the Phenomenon slapping the bass and some serious leading solos from Chase The Ace West, a guitar madman. Their mission is to wow the audience with an epic show and entertain their peers while proving that a live concert is everything from good music to good times.

The band formed in 2007 when Jon Jon and Jody scouted Chase from a former group called Missused. Later, D' Roc attended a show at the former Bottling Company in downtown Hattiesburg where the Glitter Boys were ever so eager to accommodate a new lead vocalist.

To the Glitter Boys, following a musical career with passion isn't all about chasing girls into hot tubs and making fans cater to your every whim.

"At the same time, you can't be so Seattle (the birthplace of Emo and Grunge) about it," said Chase. "Being uptight about music gives an image you don't want the public to perceive. Instead, it should be enjoyed and bring about happy times."

They center their music on good vibes and a lean yet edgy form of rock from the heart. Die-hard fans perceive the performance as a culture shock, but even newer faces raise their eyebrows and turn their heads. Great solos and perfect pauses are crowd pleasers at any show, but they add a stage presence and form improv on a pure level. The Glitter Boys take music from childhood heroes like White Snake, Poison, Warrant and Kiss to a level of new-age theories that makes the music pure and completely their own.

During a performance, the band recreates the feel you get when around a caring family. "We all play, eat, party and rock in unity. We have a marriage among the band and to the band," said Jody.

They have a respect for the genre and are true to their fans whether playing to an audience of five or 500. The belief in their cause of music has propelled them in their tours of Mississippi, Oklahoma and Louisiana.

"The House of Blues would have to be the craziest show we have ever performed," said Jon Jon. Locally they play venues like The Tavern, The Shed and the Hunt Club.

As every great rock band in history has proven, there are certain aspects to being great entertainers. Before taking the stage, the Glitter Boys form a circle of fists followed by a motivational outcry as they break form.

A fan once asked what they do as a post-show ritual, and Chase commented, "Post show? What post show? The show never ends."

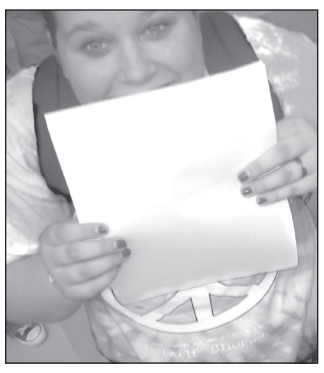
The statement they collectively share for future bands and fans of the talent is to do what feels right: take risks, make music, and enjoy the times of good and peace. Be yourselves and be creative. The future of music depends on what you perform and perceive today. Be supportive of what you believe in and pursue your passion, and when all else fails, turn back to true rock.

The Glitter Boys only have one question for their peers, "Do you believe in Rock?"

Glitter Boys Members, left to right, are Jody Row, D-Roc, Jon Jon the Phenomenon, and Chase "The Ace" West. PHOTO BY STEPHEN WILSON

Following my dreams in the Crescent City

ANNAKAYLIN BARNES
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR



"Most of the time, the greatest rewards come from doing the things that scare you the most. Maybe you'll get everything you wished for. Maybe you'll get more than you ever could have imagined. Who knows where life will take you, the road is long, and in the end…the journey is the destination."—Coach Whitey Durham

This quote pretty much sums up my summer. There is always that one thing that you always dream of doing, but sometimes it doesn't end the way you expected it to. Sometimes it's merely a learning experience meant to make you a braver person or teach you something about yourself that you never knew.

My adventure began on July 24. The destination? New Orleans, Louisiana. No, I was not going to Bourbon Street or excited about the aquarium. I was excited because I knew that there was potential for my dreams to finally come true. How am I supposed to achieve this in the Crescent City, you ask? Well, if you happened to guess American Idol… congratulations you win! I do not really have a prize for you, but I would give you a high five if I could see you right now.

I guess I should have started this story with how I got to this point (the morning of July 24.) I have been singing since I was old enough to talk. Yes, I know all the goofballs on the show start out with something like that, but I am just telling the truth. My NaNa used to sit me in front of the television in my swinger and put in "Grease." I think I knew every word by the time I was 3.

I never really sang in front of anyone except my shower walls and my family until I was a sophomore in high school and joined the show choir. From then on I was hooked. I came to love performing. So when I found out that American Idol would be holding auditions in a city closer than 500 miles away I was dead set on going. My daddy of course agreed because he always says, "I do not understand why people who have talent just hide it away from the world. You are supposed to use the gift God gave you, not just let it waste away."

So, I went on July 24 to get registered. There were thousands of people there. We stood in line for a good three hours enduring the blustering heat and banter from "Chatty Kathy" as my daddy preferred to call her, all so we could get a piece of paper and a wrist band. Yes, that seems pointless, but I have never been more excited about a piece of paper in my entire life.

Flash forward to Monday, July 26. It is 5 a.m. and I am back in line by the Superdome. This was the day. We spent the majority of the morning filming opening shots and crowd sequences for when the show would air. You know when Ryan Seacrest says, "Let's check back in with the judges and see how things are going" and stuff? The judges are not really there. Sorry if that burst your bubble.

I anxiously waited each hour as people either joyously made it through or walked out the "reject" door. Some tables were letting people through one right

see DREAMS *page 7*

Thousands of contestants lined up outside the New Orleans Arena in hopes to be the next American Idol. PHOTO BY ANNAKAYLIN BARNES

Students go back to the future with 80s' fashion

THOMAS RONEY
STAFF WRITER

These days history is not the only thing repeating itself. Now fashion trends are reappearing from the '80s. It is impossible to say our generation is completely original in its dress.

If we exclude Texas, only one thing comes to mind when thinking of big hair and heavy makeup: the '80s. Oversized hair and dramatic makeup is not just popular among the Jersey Shore cast, the entire country is taking part in this recycled phenomenon. Massive hair and heavy makeup are not the only trademarks of the '80s that we have adopted.

We see different '80s fashion trends every day. From head to toe, people's outfits are constantly reflecting the past's influence whether it be their makeup or shoes.

Leggings have made a huge comeback with girls of all ages. Some choose to wear them as pants with a t-shirt and flats. Others prefer to be a tad more modest and wear them with a dress or skirt.

Another big trend to wear this year is oversized shirts. Many girls choose to wear them as dresses with leggings and others wear them with skinny jeans and flats. Some prefer to get a little more revealing and wear them as dresses without leggings.

Shirt dresses were another hot trend in the '80s, and they are back and better than ever. There are many different styles of the shirt dress. There is the button down shirt dress that girls wear in various ways. Some wear them with a leather belt and gladiator sandals (which was also a big trend in the '80s, commonly called "Jesus Shoes"). Others wear the button down with heels and a belt to cinch the waist.

JCJC Freshman Kristina Mitchell poses for a photo in her 80s' best. PHOTO BY THOMAS RONEY

Another type of shirt dress is the polo. These are great for a day of shopping, beach going, a round of golf at the country club or a match of tennis. Some girls choose to dress these classic "dresses" up with jewelry or other accessories for a brunch or lunch with the girls.

However, not all 80s' trends are fashionable in their comeback. One trend is more of a fashion flop than a fashion stomp. This trend is leg warmers. While some girls can pull this fad off, others should leave the leg warmers to the ballerinas. Many girls think it looks good to wear the atrocious accessory over high heels with a dress and pea coat trench. This accessory makes it seem as if the women wearing them are trying to hide their "cankles."

In retrospect fashion trends come and go, but you never know when they will reappear in the future. The fads may be better or may be worse. No matter if the trend is a hit or miss at the time there is no disputing it, trends often come back with a vengeance whether we like it or not.

Rush tour set to make a stop in New Orleans

JOE POPE
STAFF WRITER

Music lovers and readers of the Radionian, it is finally cool to like Rush! It is nothing short of a wonder that the fifth highest selling band of all time has just now broken out of "cult" status with the upcoming 19th studio album "ClockworkAngels," slated for a spring 2011 release, with such singles as "Caravan" which may have graced some reader's ears on the radio recently.

For those unfamiliar with the legendary Canadian prog-rock triumvirate, Geddy Lee, (lead vocals/bass), Alex Lifeson, (guitar), and Neil Peart, (every drummer's favorite drummer), were teetering on the brink of obscurity with a devoted following until a little record by the name of "Moving Pictures" was released in 1981; this album which contains such familiar anthems such as "Tom Sawyer" and "Limelight," is considered the band's most popular record.

JCJC sophomore Samarla Williams shows her excitement about the upcoming Rush tour. PHOTO BY ANNAKAYLIN BARNES

It would only make sense that the second leg of the band's "Time Machine Tour" this spring would contain within the set list "Moving Pictures" in its entirety, something they have yet to do in the U.K. and have not done in the states since the album's release some 30 years ago.

This obviously epic tour will be making a convenient stop at the New Orleans Arena June 10 and will not only be showcasing the band's most popular songs, but will also contain songs from the earlier years and a showcasing of the upcoming "Clockwork Angels."

Over the course of their career Rush has released 24 gold records and 14 platinum records (three of which have gone multi-platinum), which places them third behind The Rolling Stones and The Beatles as the band for releasing the most consecutive gold albums.

With a legion of hungry Rush heads out there practically starving for new songs, and a whole new generation of fans now ready to experience the glory that is "Moving Pictures," it would seem tickets for the upcoming New Orleans performance will not be around for very long.

Anyone with a remote interest in this band needs to swipe a pair of tickets and witness what could perhaps be the greatest live show they have ever seen.

Statham fixes everything in 1970s remake *The Mechanic*

Being a mechanic can be a hassle, but for Arthur Bishop it is a killer…literally.

In the movie *The Mechanic,* Arthur Bishop (Jason Statham) is an elite assassin with the top skills in his line of work. The job requires a life of solitude and dedication to killing, which Bishop has mastered along with keeping his job orderly and distinctive like all mechanics should.

Harry (Donald Sutherland) is a mentor and good friend of Bishop's who is killed, which sends Bishop on a rampage to find his murderer.

Then Harry's son Steve (Ben Foster) spices things up when he wants a part in finding his father's killer as well. Learning the trade of assassination from Bishop, Steve has become almost as equipped as he is. This makes finding the killer more exciting. As the mystery unfolds, unexpected discoveries are made and truths are brought to light.

The Mechanic, released on January 8, is a remake of the original *Mechanic* from 1972 starring Charles Bronson, Jan Michaels and Keenan Wynn. The new movie is directed by Simon West who has also directed movies like *Black Hawk Down*.

see MECHANIC *page 8*

The Mechanic movie poster. PHOTO BY ANNAKAYLIN BARNES

Bobcat baseball unveils new stadium

JOSH SEABROOK
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 9, Jones proudly opened its brand new, state-of-the-art baseball stadium, Community Bank Park. The afternoon's festivities kicked off at 1 p.m. with the ribbon cutting in which several people who had assisted with the funding and building of the new facilities spoke. Soon after the ribbon cutting, the ceremonial first pitch, or in this case pitches--nine to be exact--were thrown to christen the new ball field.

Soon after the festivities had finished, the Bobcats took the field to a roar of applause. The Bobcats' opponent to open the season was Baton Rouge. On the bump for the Bobcats was star right-hander, Andrew Pierce. Pierce is the ace of the Bobcats' loaded pitching staff and is undoubtedly one of the top pitchers in the state.

The first three innings saw the Bobcat righty get off to a strong start, racking up an impressive five strikeouts and only allowing one hit and two free passes. The Bobcats kicked off the scoring in the bottom of the third after right fielder, Chad Guice, drew what is referred to in baseball as a D.L.O.W or deadly lead off walk to begin the frame. After Guice drew the walk, Bobcat shortstop Graham Odom hustled out what was intended to be a sac bunt for an infield single, allowing Guice to motor over to third base and into scoring position. The following batter, JC second baseman Zac Allen, came through with a ringing two-run double. It looked at this point like the Bobcats were on their way to a

see BASEBALL *page 7*

Bobcat baseball and Lady Bobcat softball teams hold the ribbon to be cut during the opening ceremonies. PHOTO BY ANNA MARIE SMITH

Aussie, Brit team up for JC tennis

NATHAN BURKETT
STAFF WRITER

Throughout the United States, competition for collegiate tennis has reached its apex for players. How did this sudden spike in the competitive edge emerge?

The answer lies beyond the borders of the US. Throughout the past few decades, more and more schools have begun to recruit players from other countries.

With tennis programs searching for international athletes, the doors have opened for many talented young men and women worldwide to show American colleges their skills. And when the options for recruiting athletes went from merely the United States to the entire world, obviously the level of competition climbed to new heights.

JCJC's tennis program has decided to take advantage of this trend and increase the depth of the 2011 men's tennis team with two talented players. Sam Thorold from Leicestershire, England and Nick Williams from Melbourne, Australia will be competing with the eight American men on the current tennis team. Their skills on the court should be the key to taking the men's team to the next level in competition. With

see AUSSIE *page 7*

Newcomer Nick Williams crushes backhand. PHOTO BY ANNA MARIE SMITH

Lady Bobcats prepare for third consecutive state title run

JOSH SEABROOK
STAFF WRITER

The JCJC Lady Bobcats are in the midst of yet another strong season that is possibly heading for their third consecutive state title.

The Lady Bobcats head coach, Sandra Sumrall, is a legend in the sport of women's basketball who spent many years as the head coach of the West Jones High School Lady Mustangs basketball team. Under the lead of Coach Sumrall, the Lady Bobcats have been fixtures atop their division and a proven powerhouse in the state. Each of the past two seasons, the Lady Bobcats have notched two state championships, and this season is looking very promising so far.

"We are extremely pleased with how the season has progressed," said Sumrall.

The Lady Bobcats is a team loaded with young talent but not much experience. This year's version of the Lady Bobcats has more than a few freshmen but has solid leadership in the forms of Tanecka Carey, Kianna Harris, and Mechelle Thomas. These three sophomores are an integral part of the Lady Bobcats' success.

"We started off the year with a lot of incoming freshmen, and in this league, that one year of experience can really be a difference maker," stated Sumrall. "Our sophomores, Tanecka Carey, Kianna Harris, and Mechelle Thomas have done a good job being leaders and raising the level of the play for the entire team."

5'6 Freshman Alondra Rivers shoots a jump shot from beyond the arc. PHOTO BY ANNA MARIE SMITH

Though the Lady Bobcats have consistently won the league the past couple of seasons, this is by all means not an easy league to play in. Both week in and week out, the Lady Bobcats face tough opponent after tough opponent.

"This is such a tough league and every team is competitive so we have to continue to work hard and be prepared for every game," said Sumrall.

The Lady Bobcats treat each game as if it was one of their most heated rivalries.

"Each game is very important not only for records and pride but for seedings in the state tournament," added Sumrall.

The Lady Bobcats are on their way to an impressive third consecutive state title, led by sophomore Tanecka Carey. Though the team is very young and may lack experience, they more than make up for those shortcomings with their talent and athleticism.

Although the Lady Bobcats have many rivals, they treat each and every game with equal importance and put the same amount of time and planning into every opponent. The Lady Bobcats are aptly prepared for the rest of this rigorous season and the state tournament at the season's end. Hopefully, the Lady Bobcats can manage to bring back yet another state championship and finish the improbable three peat.

PGA professional Jennings to lead golfers

LELAND YARNELL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bobcat Golf team has had some uncertainty heading into this season at the coaching position. Vice President Ed Smith, last year's coach, stepped down and the search began for the next coach for this new Bobcat golf team.

The team turned to PGA professional Jeff Jennings who is a member of the Laurel Country Club.

"Jeff has been a wonderful asset to the team," said sophomore Bing Waldron. "This will be our best season yet."

Although this will be Jeff's first season with the team, he is no stranger to a few of the players.

"I have been working with the team since October of last year," said Jennings. "Many of them I have known through junior programs that I run in the summertime. So with that said, we are all getting along well."

Jennings did not hesitate about expectations from his players and the season.

"Each knows what I expect of them, and we try to learn after each round," said Jennings. "I expect our team to be much more competitive in the events

see GOLFERS *page 7*

High hopes for lady Bobcat softball season

ANNA MARIE SMITH
STAFF WRITER

This softball season will be one to remember. The anticipation has never been so high as the Lady Bobcats gear up to make history by going farther than any previous JCJC softball team has gone before. Head coach Chris Robinson believes this year's team will make it happen.

"Our expectations from the start have been to make the state playoffs," said Robinson. "We have been striving to build our program where we can make that a realistic possibility, and this year I believe we can get there."

Practices began in August, lasting up to three and a half hours. With only five returning sophomores, the team is well aware of the importance of practices to prepare them for a tough schedule.

"How you practice determines how you will play in a game.. Never give up on anything," said returning sophomore Kayla McDaniel of East Central in reference to the atmosphere around practices.

Lady Bobcats honor nations flag before game. PHOTO BY ANNA MARIE SMITH

Not only has practices been intensified, the team aspect has also been amplified as well. Both McDaniel and Robinson agree that this year's team has bonded to a whole new degree.

"I believe the chemistry of this team will make a tremendous difference this season," said Robinson. We have come together more as a team this year than any softball team I have been associated with.î

see SOFTBALL *page 7*

Final games show promise for Bobcat basketball season

COMPILED BY:
LELAND YARNELL
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bobcat basketball team has had an underachieving season thus far, but things are looking bright for the last stretch of the regular season. They should be able to make a run for one of the final seeds in the playoffs.

"I feel like our team is heading in the right direction," stated head coach Don Skelton. We have improved in our execution, especially offensively. We would like to see our defense improve these last couple of weeks. Our next 3 games will determine if we make the playoffs and where we are seeded. This is the time of the season that teams must be playing at the highest level and we are hoping to do that." The Bobcats are currently 10-10 on the season.

Bobcats 120, Dolphins 104

The Bobcats had an offensive explosion on Thursday, Jan. 14 against the Delgado Community College Dolphins. Sophomore Brandon Givens had a whopping 35 points. Kadeem Fleming was hot from behind the arc and dropped 8 treys. Albert Peterson added 14 points en route to a 120-104 victory over the Dolphins. The win avenged a 94-83 Bobcat loss to the Dolphins away from home earlier in the season Nov. 4.

Wildcats 62, Bobcats 60

Bobcat fans almost saw an impressive win on their home court Tuesday, Jan. 18.

But the No. 9 Pearl River Community College Wildcats got a basket with one second remaining to seal the victory against the Bobcats, 62-60.

Derrious Gilmore led all Bobcats with 16 points. Kadeem Fleming scored 12, while Brandon Givens had eight. Rico Rankins added seven.

Bulldogs 78, Bobcats 71

Thursday, Jan. 7 the Bobcats were edged by the Bulldogs 78-71. The Bulldogs took an early psychological lead and never looked back.

The Bobcats took an 11-5 lead with 16:15 to play when Brandon Givens scored.

Hinds responded with a 15-0 run and went up 20-11 with 12:54 to play when Erik Burks scored on a layup.

The Bobcats took their last lead of the game when Nixon scored on a drive in the lane to start the second half and make it 40-39 with 19:00 left.

A Givens' 3-pointer cut the Hinds' lead to 68-66 with 1:14 left, but the Bulldogs would

see LAST *page 7*

Bobcat netters prepare for season

Nathan Burkett
STAFF WRITER

Throughout the last decade, tennis coach Mark Easley has quickly built and maintained two successful tennis teams at Jones County Junior College.

He has attracted players from all over Mississippi with tennis programs that offer a fun and exciting atmosphere, as well as a hard-working environment that promotes rapid improvement in players' games.

"I try to keep the environment fun, as well as serious," Easley said. "I teach them to play their matches point by point. When they do that, the wins and losses take care of themselves."

Easley's positive coaching styles have given him positive results, with the women's team winning state championships the past two years and the men's team being one spot away from qualifying for the national tournament. With these successes and more, it is no surprise that Easley has some high hopes for his 2011 teams.

The 2011 men's tennis team is showing high signs of potential, with talent coming from many different sources including four returning sophomores, Cade Sherman, Mitchell Smith, Armand Deniakos and Nathan Burkett. Six freshmen are also hitting the courts.

The men's team is introducing the first international players the JCJC tennis team has ever seen.

These two players, Sam Thorold from Leicestershire, England and Nick Williams from Melbourne, Australia will definitely add some depth to the roster. The other four freshmen coming in are Josh Agee, Thomas Morgan, Colby Prince, and Casper Wansley.

"The ingredients are here for one of the best teams we've ever had," said Easley.

He is expecting big things from these players. With a solid team top to bottom, these men should be able to compete at a higher level than they ever have.

Different expectations are emerging for the 2011 women's team. With only one returning sophomore, leadership might be hard to come by on this young team. Sophomore Arlette Cochran is hoping to push the five new freshmen towards another successful season.

The five freshmen jumping on the team are Lauren Carpenter, Brandy Freeman, Rachel Jefcoat, Amber Long and Alison Rudolph.

Only one player on the team has any college athletic experience, so the freshmen

Left, returning sophomore Arlette Cochran. Right, freshman Sam Thorold crushes backhand. Photos by Anna Marie Smith

are going to have to step up and be competitive this season to have a chance at another state championship.

"There are a lot of unknowns," explained Easley. "We lost a lot of girls from last year and caught a tough recruiting season this year."

Nonetheless, Easley plans on working with these women and pulling out another successful season.

Bobcats look to impress on new field

Charlie Holder
STAFF WRITER

The Bobcats baseball team is looking forward to a very promising season. With 12 returning players Coach Christian Ostrander feels "very confident about the upcoming season.

The team has improved a tremendous amount since August. The freshmen are fitting into the team as good as any coach could dream of," said Ostrander.

"Pitching along with a great defense are our major strengths this season," said Ostrander. 'Scoring runs' still needs work. "If we can score runs and our defense plays as well as they can, then we are more than capable of making it to the south state, then onto state, then to regional, and finally make it to the World Series," said Ostrander.

The Bobcats not only have a great team to look forward to this year, but also their new field. "It is by far one of the most beautiful fields in the division," He described the field as "unbelievably beautiful" and said that he could not express how grateful he is for all the funding and administration that made it all possible.

Sophomore pitcher Andrew Pierce. Photo by Anna Marie Smith

Baseball

from page 6

a sure victory with Pierce nursing a two-run lead.

Over the next two innings the game turned into what looked like a pitcher's duel. After five innings, the scoreboard showed JCJC 2 Baton Rouge 0, and Pierce had notched eight strikeouts to this point. As the sixth inning began, the sky darkened and seemingly cast a cloud of misfortune on the Bobcat baseball team. Pierce exited in the sixth without recording an out, leaving two runners on base. Bobcat head coach Christian Ostrander was pleased with Pierce's performance.

"He was great," Ostrander said. "He was really strong and gave us five really strong innings."

After Pierce left, the bullpen failed to hold Pierce's lead. Pierce's final line was five plus innings, four hits, two base on balls, eight K's, two earned runs, and a no decision. The sixth inning would prove to be the undoing for the Bobcats as the bullpen failed to keep the team in the ballgame, giving up five runs during the inning. After the sixth inning, the Bobcat bullpen squandered a two-run lead before finally stopping the bleeding and getting out of the inning.

"We just didn't get it down with bullpen," Ostrander said. "Pierce comes out with a 2 -0 lead and two runners on. The game shouldn't end up the way it did."

In the bottom of the sixth, the Bobcats tried to rally from behind, but the Baton Rouge pitcher managed to tight rope out of danger and leave the Bobcats with runners left on base, allowing no runs in the inning. In the seventh, it was more of the same for the Bobcats as the bullpen continued to struggle. At the start of the seventh, Bobcat reliever Tyler Fall entered the game in his first collegiate action since last season's unfortunate injury. Fall was able to record one out and gave up three runs.

"He probably had a little bit of butterflies," Ostrander said. "I was very glad to see him out there and was happy for him. I expect him to do good things."

Fall was relieved by Bobcat southpaw reliever Chase Stewart. Stewart was able to get the out of the inning, and it was now up to the Bobcat offense to try to pull off a miracle rally in the bottom of the seventh. Unfortunately, the Bobcats were unable to get any more runs and ended the game on a disappointing note. The final score in the game was Baton Rouge 12 JCJC 3.

Ostrander saw some areas that he and his staff will work on for the next game. He was pleased with "the heart and effort" of his team. "Some of the guys felt pressured out there and needed to relax," Ostrander said. "We made some mental mistakes that we have to be better at, and we didn't compete with as much confidence in some areas that I think we had to."

Still, Ostrander saw promise for his young team, knowing that they will improve with experience. "Game one, first day, lots of excitement, lot of jitters--we just have to improve in a few of those areas," Ostrander said. "We realized that we have to go out there and play a good game any time you play because anybody can beat you at any time. You're not going to be given anything. We just got to be handle adversity a little better."

Last

from page 6

then score six straight points and put the game away. Ruscell Williams hit a pair of free throws with 39.5 seconds left to give Hinds a seven point cushion to make the score 74-66.

Kadeem Fleming led the Bobcats, 8-9 overall and 4-3 in the division, with 21 points. He had 17 in the first half, including five 3-pointers. Givens had 19 points and a game-high 15 rebounds.

Derek Burks had 21 points and 10 rebounds for the Bulldogs, 5-1 overall and 1-5 in the division. Erik Burks added 16, Trevis Thomas had 15, Williams added 14 and Adam Smith had 10.

Bobcats 113, Eagles 100

The Bobcats took an early lead against Meridian Community College Feb. 7. The team had help with five people scoring in double figures. The scoreboard showed 113-100 when the clock reached zero.

The Bobcats lost to the Eagles earlier in the season 113-107 and seemed to take it personal with a decisive victory and a high shooting percentage.

JCJC shot 56 percent from the field and was 14-of-25 from three point land. Standout sophomore forward Brandon Givens led the Bobcats in scoring with 29 points and 10-for-10 shooting. Baltimore, MD native Derrious Gilmore was also impressive with a double-double recorded on the stat sheet. Kadeem Flemming added 18 points as well.

As far as team progress and success Head coach Don Skelton stated, "I feel like our team is heading in the right direction. We have improved in our execution, especially offensively. We would like to see our defense improve these last couple of weeks. Our next 3 games will determine if we make the playoffs and where we are seeded. This is the time of the season that teams must be playing at the highest level and we are hoping to do that."

All stats are provided by JCJC SID Shawn Wansley

Aussie

from page 6

many other junior colleges in Mississippi already obtaining international players, Thorold and Williams will provide depth to the JCJC men's roster.

Thorold, who has played exhibition matches at Wimbledon against semi-pro tennis players, is sure to bring a lot of experience and ability to the Bobcats' courts. Thorold's expectations for this year are uncertain.

"I don't really have any expectations yet, because I haven't faced any of the competition," he explained.

Thorold is, however, excited about the season. "One of my biggest inspirations right now is 'T'," said Thorold. 'T' is merely a nickname for one of Thorold's best friends on campus, Tyler Barnett. "He is an encouragement for me academically and athletically," Thorold explained.

A philosophy major, Thorold is enjoying his time at JCJC, on and off the court. He is optimistic about the tennis season, but he is also having fun just soaking up the American culture.

Williams will also, without a doubt, bring some talent to the men's team that will be sure to make them more successful.

"I think with the team we have right now, we will have a great shot at going to nationals," he said. "I plan on playing my best tennis and helping out the team however I can."

Hopefully this positive attitude will be contagious for Williams' teammates. Williams claims that a lot of his inspiration for tennis comes from his favorite professional player, Rafael Nadal.

"I admire his mental strength on the court and his ability to fight for a win in any situation," he said. Williams said he is finding JCJC to be a very inviting and exciting atmosphere, making friends all over campus. The sports science major is hoping to take his tennis skills to a four-year school in America after his time at JCJC. But for now, this Aussie is just enjoying life in America by meeting new people, laughing at their funny accents, and playing some tennis with his new teammates.

Softball

from page 6

McDaniel believes that the team has become 'one' through the willingness of every member to trust each other.

"We act like we've known each other for so much longer than just a few months. We always emphasize 'team' with whatever we do. It's a huge part of being winners," said McDaniel.

In addition to all the hype around this year's softball season, the team couldn't be more thrilled about finally getting to play ìat homeî on their new state-of-the-art field, Community Bank Park. Robinson has been counting down to opening day to see the first pitch being thrown.

"This is a beautiful facility," said Robinson. "We want to say thank you to Dr. Smith and the Board of Trustees for allowing us to have the best facility in the southeast hands down!"

Opening day was Wednesday, Feb. 9. Fans, alumni, faculty, and staff met in front of the park as the sophomores from both the baseball and softball teams held the ribbon as board members and honored guests joined in the cutting of the ribbon. The Lady Bobcats then got down to business as they faced their first opponent, the Lady Bulldogs of Holmes Community College.

It would be an easy win as the Lady Bobcats capitalized on 12 hits to score 12 runs causing the game to end after five innings because of the ten-run rule. The JCJC hitters were Shannon Mosley with a double and a single, Heidi Garcich with three singles, Haley Brooke Smith with two singles, Jessmar Walters and McDaniel each had a double, while Alex Faciane and Stacia Whitaker each had a single. Lauren Candies was in the circle for the Lady Bobcats.

Dreams

from page 5

after the other, but others were only letting people in every 45 minutes. This is when I became nervous. My step-mom kindly reminded me that I had done far scarier things, and whether they loved me or hated me that I would still be the same beautiful girl with the pretty voice that everyone loved. "Just pretend you're somewhere else. You'll do great!" she said.

Finally my section was called. As I am standing on the floor waiting to be directed to a table, my cousin is tweeting Ryan Seacrest to come find me, my friends are blowing up my phone with good luck messages, my step-mom is attempting to take pictures of me, and all I can think is God please help me.

Here it was. The judges at table six had my entire future dangling in the air. It was time to pretend I was somewhere else, somewhere familiar. I closed my eyes and pictured myself in my living room singing to my NaNa, asking her if everything sounded okay. I could almost hear her saying, "Just breathe Kaylin. Just take a big deep breath, let it out, and you can take on the whole world."

Unfortunately I didn't make it to the next round. I am okay with that though. I had taken on one of my wildest dreams and that was a victory in itself to me. Like Durham said, "Sometimes the journey is the destination," and my destination had made for one pretty great adventure.

American Idol Season 10 aired on Jan. 19. Some of the rumors whirling around it were hilarious to a person who had firsthand knowledge of what was really going on this season.

A few truths spilled out of the rumor mills. For instance, Season 10 is the first season were 15-year-olds have been allowed to audition (Jaycee Badeaux from the New Orleans' auditions proved that one was no mistake.) There are also a few new faces on the judging panel that are bringing a whole new light to the Idol experience. Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez agreed to join Randy Jackson as replacements for Simon Cowell, Ellen DeGeneres and Kara DioGuardi.

Want to know all the other exciting changes happening in season 10? Tune into Fox at 8/7c every Wednesday and Thursday. You can also check out behind the scenes pictures, interviews, and audition clips at www.americanidol.com.

Love

from page 4

Randy Purdum. Lisa works in the eLearning office and proctor lab while husband Randy is the Electrical Technology instructor. Purdum has been working at Jones for 15 years now after a mid life career change from industry and business. The Purdums met at Laurel High School and have happily been married for 30 years.

Lisa Purdum mentions, "Even though we work at the same place, our schedules are not the same. He is faculty and I am staff. We IM back and forth a good bit. It's kind of like we are not working anywhere near each other." Purdum says that working together makes life a little easier on the both of them..

JCJC did a little match making of its own for one teacher on campus, Rebecca Patrick and her husband Howard Patrick. On the steps of the JCJC Science Building there was love at first sight for these two students. Rebecca Patrick explains, "Howard kept coming out of class, supposedly to get a drink of water. Every time he came out, he would strike up a conversation with me and two of my friends."

Patrick tells how a few dates later Howard had hair past his shoulders, which was not an appropriate style in her dad's eyes. Patrick continues with, "The next day, Howard went to visit his grandfather, a barber in Waynesboro, and got his hair cut to a more socially acceptable length. Dad was impressed and so was I."

After asking Howard Patrick the story of his and his wife's first meeting he replied with, "There on the steps inside the science building, going upstairs was the most beautiful pair of legs I had ever seen. At that moment I decided to find out and meet who they were attached to!"

The Patricks have now been married for over 30 years and have a son Rease, 19, a freshman at JCJC. Rebecca teaches yearbook and reading enhancement classes. Howard teaches 11th grade history at South Jones High School.

The Patricks as students at JCJC in 1977. Photo submitted

There are other couples working together on campus and even more couples who met while they were students at JCJC.

Opportunities

from page 1

losing its competitive edge in 1991 with the introduction of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The idea was that all of the low wage, low skill jobs would be exported to South America, but the flaw was communist China. No one counted on what is now called the "Asian Equation": Chinese are willing to work high skill jobs for low wages.

One thing China gains from the United States is creativity. They take American ideas and make them better. This is the reason that a majority of items Americans buy say "Made in China" and "Designed in the US." Apple computers are a prime example of this. American corporations help fund Chinese laboratories because of their willingness to work for low wages. They make things we need, but they need our technology to do it.

Smith says that two things need to change before improvements can be made, "Corporations need to invest in Americans, and each student has to be more productive than 10 Chinese students combined since there are 10 Chinese students for every American student."

China is envious of America's student support system. There are scholarships, grants and loans readily available to students in the United States. In contrast, Chinese students who want government funding for education must take a test and then be placed in a particular school based on those results.

Consider this: China has a one-child policy. That one child has two parents and four grandparents all focusing their time and attention on that one child's education and opportunities. In the United States, there may be one parent taking care of six kids. Even though these circumstances are sometimes beyond one's control, they still affect the education of those kids and, essentially, the welfare of America.

China has 1.3 billion people. There are 300 million Americans. There are 300 million Chinese who earn $115,000 a year. Shanghai ranks number one in the world in math and science. Regretfully, America ranks number 25.

For these reasons and several others, Smith has been studying China for about three years. A video he came across on Youtube, "Did you know?" also helped to spark interest. It shows various facts including, "The top ten jobs in demand in 2010 did not exist in 2004, today the number of text messages sent and received every day exceeds the total population of the planet and there are about 540,000 words in the English language, five times as many as in Shakespeare's time."

With so much technology being created and shared daily, Americans should be concerned. Smith knows that now is the time to take action. Plans for a faculty exchange program are currently in the works. The program will be open to faculty specifically in areas of business, industrial services and robotics. Teachers will be trained in the culture for four weeks before going to China for two weeks.

Smith plans to begin this as early as the upcoming fall semester. He feels that China's educational systems can be read about and studied, but it is something a person has to see firsthand to believe.

Dr. Jesse Smith at the Great Wall of China. Photo submitted.

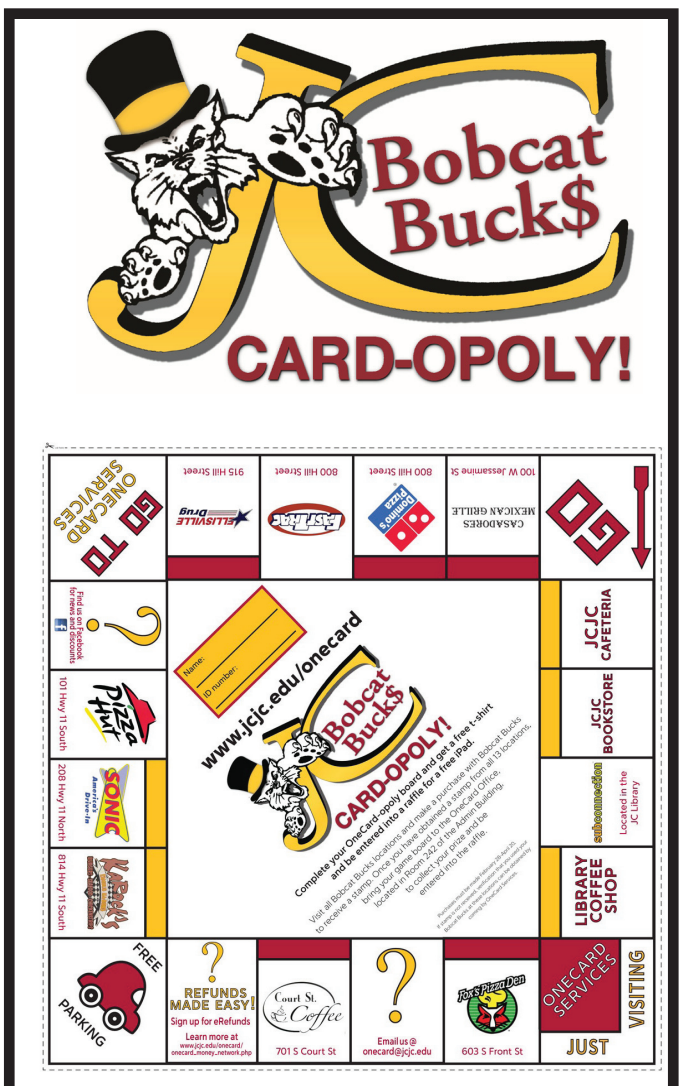
Another change that will take place on campus will be the method of teaching for some instructors. Average college-aged students are called Millennials. They are the most technologically advanced generation and are usually able to teach adults about certain aspects of technology. The gap between Millennials and their parents is greater than any other generation gap in history. Finding ways for the two generations to best communicate is a goal.

Students today are hands-on multi-taskers, and, in some cases, old school methods of teaching just aren't getting through. Smith has developed a plan for instructors at JCJC to better reach these types of students.

"Teachers must be on the same level as a Millennial in knowledge and experience," said Smith. "They must set specific expectations and learn to motivate students. Only then will they be able to begin teaching Milennials."

To learn more about the importance of these improvements, watch Youtube videos, "Did you Know 3.0 Official Version" and "A Vision of Students Today." The good news is that this generation is taking action against problems that we may have created, and there is certainly hope. Smith remains positive and is confident in the Millennial generation.

He said, "I have no doubt that our students can compete with anyone in the world."



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More information coming soon!

Plea

from page 3

the plea of insanity. Nonetheless, some still argue that the idea of anyone avoiding justice is a heinous reality.

Before a person can be convicted of a crime two questions must be answered. One, did the accused perform the act in question? Two, did he or she have criminal intent? The insanity defense works because some people are said to lack a certain mental component to develop intent. Should a person who genuinely is without the mental capacity to have intent be accountable for his or her crimes? An example is the case of the obviously paranoid schizophrenic, Brian Kelley. He suffocated his 13-month-old child because "God told him to do it." Someone with such a diminished capacity to interpret right from wrong could not rightly be judged for intent. His "supposed" intent was to obey God's orders. How could that stand in court? In his schizophrenic mind his intent was not criminal, it was obedient.

Throughout history people against the plea of mental insanity have tried to abolish it completely. Many say this would be unconstitutional in accordance to the 8th and 14th Amendments. These amendments state no one will suffer cruel punishment and everyone will have a fair trial. As long as good lawyers can find constitutional loopholes this assumed avoidance of justice will be upheld in court occasionally. As for the issue of right or wrong, that depends on the case.

Smoking

from page 3

Having at least two small pavilions with a few benches and ashtrays is a simple means of solving our problems. This way, students have a safe, covered area in which to stand when they are smoking, and the rest of the student body can have the rest of the campus to breathe easily. Clean air is a right that every person should have, but not at the cost of putting our fellow students in danger.

Mechanic

from page 5

The 2011 movie version took nine weeks to film in locations like New Orleans and St. Tammany Parish. *The Mechanic* is rated R for strong brutal violence, language, some sexual content and nudity.

For all action junkies who love films packed with violence and shooting, this is the film for you.

Golfers

from page 6

this spring than in the past. We will continue to play and practice hard and represent JCJC to our utmost ability."

Although the team finished 9th overall in the state last year, Jennings is expecting a promising year.

"The team is progressively improving in practice and will see great improvement in our tournaments this year," stated Jennings. "My main goal is to get these kids thinking right when they play. Each has good golf ability, but must learn to control their emotions and move on to the next shot."

The Bobcat golf team opened up season play Feb. 6 at Oaks Golf Club in Pass Christian.

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